Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of the organizing committee, I am excited to announce the beginning of our 18th annual Community Works fundraising campaign!

Please support the ten local non-profit organizations selected based on your nominations. These agencies have demonstrated their ability to address such important community needs as victim services, literacy, poverty, arts, education, prison reform, housing, immigration, athletics, and animal welfare. For more information on the new grant recipients please check our website at communityworks.vassar.edu

As many of you know, each organization receives an equal share of the Community Works funds raised. One hundred percent of our contributions go directly to the agencies because Vassar pays for all costs associated with the campaign. Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution via payroll deduction, credit card, or check. You can use the secure Community Works website to make a payroll deduction pledge or contribute with a credit card.

For payroll deduction please submit your pledge form by December 15th. To donate by check, fill out and send the form with your contribution to Community Works, Box 9.

Every and any amount counts! We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tracy Sutherland
Community Works, Chair
tsutherland@vassar.edu
Recipients

People's Place
People's Place is a not-for-profit organization feeding, clothing, and responding to the needs of the people in Ulster County with kindness, compassion, and the preservation of human dignity since 1972.

Mid Hudson Aquatics
Mid Hudson Aquatics provides swim lessons and lifeguard training for low income, minority families in Poughkeepsie. Pools for city residents to participate in lessons have disappeared and lack of public lessons or low-cost lessons at the remaining pools in Dutchess create a barrier to many families. MHA provides no or low-cost swim lessons to families; provides swimsuits, goggles and caps whenever possible, provides bilingual instruction, provides one on one lessons for children with autism and other disabilities. MHA also provides a low-cost competitive swim team for low income swimmers at less than 50% the cost of the other club teams that serve the the town of Poughkeepsie.

Victim Services of Family Services, Inc
Family Services seeks to meet the changing needs of individuals and families in our community by helping to shape policy, enhance systems and services, and improve the quality of community life, while still maintaining the direct services that support their neighbors. Family Services provides programs and services throughout the Hudson Valley including: youth services, family programs, victim services, prevention, community safety and the Family Partnership Center—all geared to provide hope, improve lives and strengthen community.

Arts Mid-Hudson
Arts Mid-Hudson provides vision and leadership to support thriving and diverse arts in the Mid-Hudson Valley. Arts Mid-Hudson values the abundant presence of art in the Mid-Hudson Valley and its ability to uplift, empower, and engage, while honoring diversity and celebrating creativity. They are committed to playing a central role in supporting and promoting all of the arts in the communities they serve.

Ulster Literacy Association
Empowering people through literacy. Ulster Literacy has been providing their neighbors with one-to-one free tutoring in basic reading and writing skills and teaching English as a new language for over 35 years.

Hudson Valley Animal Rescue and Sanctuary
Hudson Valley Animal Rescue and Sanctuary (HVARS) is a 501(c)(3) charity, located in New York State. HVARS rescues domestic animals, farm animals, and rehabilitates wildlife. We also run a low-cost spay/neuter program for cats and small dogs.

Exodus Transitional Community
Exodus Transitional Community offers services to individuals recently released from jail/prison. They provide job readiness programming (including job search assistance, resume counseling, mock interviews, “dress for success” style-clothes), anger management programming, assistance with housing, transportation, ID services, Medicaid & SNAP, and general case management.

Hudson River Housing’s Liberty Station
Hudson River Housing (HRH) provides a continuum of services that improve lives and communities through housing with compassion and development with vision. HRH creates pathways out of homelessness through empowerment, education, and advocacy. HRH strengthens communities by developing and preserving affordable housing and creating opportunities for people and places to thrive.

Nobody Leaves Mid-Hudson
Nobody Leaves Mid-Hudson (NLMH) is a grassroots community organization based in Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster Counties that strives for all people to have their basic human needs met. The organization’s current focus is on immigration assistance and utility access; NLMH works with thousands of low-income people, immigrants, and people of color across the area. Four of the six staff members are immigrants, and a fifth is the only US-born member of her undocumented family. Two staff members are also Vassar alumnae/i.

R.E.A.L. Skills Network
A non-profit organization located in Poughkeepsie, NY, that serves area youth along their paths to leadership. Programs that operate under R.E.A.L. are designed to help students that have had difficulty navigating the paths of traditional social, educational, and judicial systems to understand and obtain mainstream skill competency levels and social values that would empower them to more successfully interact in their community, school or job.

• To give or pledge online by credit card, debit card, or payroll deduction, go to the secure website communityworks.vassar.edu.

• To give or pledge by campus mail, complete this form below and mail the entire sheet in the enclosed return envelope. Choose either payroll deduction or single contribution.

• To give in honor of someone fill in their name here: ______________________________

☐ One-time contribution by check

Enclosed is my one-time contribution to the 2019 Community Works Campaign in the amount of:

☐ $10  ☐ $25  ☐ $35

☐ $50  ☐ $75  ☐ $100  ☐ other $____________

Please complete and sign below:

☐ Payroll deduction

My per pay period contribution to the 2019 Community Works Campaign will be:

☐ $1  ☐ $2  ☐ $4

☐ $6  ☐ $8  ☐ $10  ☐ other $____________

Please write the number of pay periods you wish to deduct your contribution. _____________

Vassar ID Number  Print Name  Signature

One-hundred percent of your contribution will support the work of all 10 organizations in our community!